Listing of Claims

The following listing of the claims replaces all previous listings:

1. (Currently Amended): An automotive airbag device comprising:

a side impact airbag having an interior formed by joining mutually facing fabric layers,

a gas generator used to inflate ~~said~~the airbag by injecting gas therein, ~~said~~the gas generator having an insertion end which is inserted into and disposed within a gas guide of the airbag configured to direct the flow of gas from ~~said~~the gas generator into ~~said~~the airbag,

the gas guide including a gas guide member having an attachment orifice into which ~~said~~the insertion end of ~~said~~the gas generator is inserted, and also including gas injection nozzles facing the interior of ~~said~~the airbag, and

a convex seam formed by a mutually joined part of ~~said~~the fabric layers, a top of ~~said~~the convex seam disposed in opposition to and facing ~~said~~ the gas guide member, wherein

~~said~~the gas flowing into ~~said~~the airbag from ~~said~~the gas generator, when ~~said~~the airbag is being inflated, causes ~~said~~the gas guide member to come into contact with at least the top of~~said~~ the convex seam.

2. (Currently Amended): The automotive airbag device according to claim 1, wherein ~~said~~the gas guide member includes a gas discharge tube which includes ~~said~~the gas injection nozzles, and ~~said~~the gas discharge tube comes into contact with at least~~said~~ the top of the convex seam in response to the inflation of ~~said~~the airbag so as

to change the direction of gas flow into ~~said~~the airbag from ~~said~~the gas generator through ~~said~~the gas guide member.

3. (Currently Amended): The automotive airbag device according to claim 1, wherein at least one gas injection nozzle of ~~said~~the gas guide member is formed over each side of ~~a protrusion~~the top of ~~said~~the convex seam.

4. (Currently Amended): The automotive airbag device according to claim 3, wherein ~~said~~the convex seam is approximately triangular in shape and ~~said~~the ~~protrusion~~ top of the convex seam ~~thereof~~ is disposed facing ~~said~~the gas guide member in close proximity.

5. (Currently Amended): The automotive airbag device according to claim 4, wherein a region of ~~said~~the gas discharge tube between ~~said~~the gas ~~discharge~~ injection nozzles comes into contact with and straddles two inclined sides of ~~said protrusion~~ the top of ~~said~~the convex seam during the time that ~~said~~the airbag is being inflated.

6. (Currently Amended): The automotive airbag device according to claim 2, wherein the width of ~~said~~the convex seam facing ~~said~~the gas guide member is from 80 to 120% the width of ~~said~~the gas discharge tube of ~~said~~the gas guide member.

7. (Currently Amended): The automotive airbag device according to claim 1, wherein the clearance between ~~said~~the gas guide member and ~~said~~the convex seam is less than 20mm.

8. (Currently Amended): The automotive airbag device according to claim 1, wherein ~~said~~the gas guide member is made from an expandable material.

9. (Currently Amended): The automotive airbag device according to claim 8, wherein the flow of gas through ~~said~~the gas guide member causes ~~said~~the member to elongate, in a direction toward ~~said~~the convex seam, a distance at least 5mm greater than a clearance therebetween.